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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/765,848	01/19/2001	David R. Rhee	RHEE 4	9239

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WOODBIDGE & ASSOCIATES P C
RICHARD C WOODRIDGE
P O BOX 592
PRINCETON, NJ 08542

EXAMINER

VU, VIET DUY

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 01/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/765,848

Applicant(s)

RHEE, DAVID R.

Examiner

Viet Vu

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22, 24-26 and 31-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 16-22, 24, 26, 32 and 34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 15, 25, 31 and 33 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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Art Rejections:

1. The text of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) cited in the previous office action is hereby incorporated by reference.

2. Claims 1-14, 16-22, 24, 26, 32 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saltanov et al, U.S. pat. No. 6,838,411.

Per claims 1-2, Saltanov discloses a system and method for providing access for authorized user to pre-stored messages comprising:

a) providing an user interface (mailbox) indicating pre-stored messages available for access by the user (see col 5, lines 15-20);

b) upon selection by the user of an available message, having multiple message portions including an initial audio message created by a first person and one or more audio attachments to the initial audio message created by another person, providing the user an indication indicating that the selected message includes both an initial audio message and one or more audio attachments (e.g., different icons) (col 5, lines 42-52 and col 6, lines 19-27);

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- c) providing the user option for selecting one message portion from the message which includes an initial audio message with one or more audio attachments; and
- d) upon selection by the user of the one message portion of the selected message, causing only said selected portion to be provided to said user (see col 6, lines 1-18).

Saltanov does not explicitly teach providing the user a signal indicating the arrival of the message. An official notice is taken that the use of a message notification to inform user of a new message is well known in the art.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize any known notification signals in Saltanov to inform user of new messages because it would have enabled implementing a functional messaging system.

Per claims 3-8, Saltanov teaches enabling the user to repeatedly select and access any components/attachments related to the message using the graphical user interface of a computer terminal (see col 6, lines 19-35).

Per claims 9-11, Saltanov teaches retrieving and playing voice messages via computer terminals as well as conventional telephone terminals (see col 4, lines 26-57).

Per claims 12-13, Saltanov shows a conventional email message comprises a header and body portion where the header comprises address and pointer information (see col 6, lines 1-18).

Per claim 14, Saltanov also teaches providing limited message manipulation functions such as replying, forwarding, deletion and modification to the initial message (see col 5, lines 7-14).

Claims 16-22, 24, 26, 32 and 34 are similar in scope as that of claims 1-14.

Allowable Subject Matter:

3. Claims 15, 25, 31 and 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Amendment:

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 11/28/05 with respect to claims 1-14, 16-22, 24, 26, 32 and 34 have been fully considered but are moot in view of new grounds of rejection set forth above.

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Conclusion:

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See M.P.E.P. § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Viet Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-3977. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee, can be reached on 571-272-3964.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

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Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



VIET D. VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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1/3/06